

The Upper Falls News

The Upper Falls News is an email newsletter that covers what's going in our village. The Upper Falls News is brought to you by the Upper Falls Area Council but it's intended to cover any and all news in the village. If you have any upcoming events, activities, news or stories related to Upper Falls just send them to info@UpperFallsNews.org and we'll include them in the next newsletter.

Upper Falls Trivia - What makes the old stone building at the corner of Oak and Cliff St unique and qualified it for inclusion in Ripley's Believe It or Not? (Answer at end of email)

Meeting on Wed (2/8) About Rt 9 exit from Rt 128 - As part of the state's "128 Add a Lane" project, the interchange between Rt9 and Rt128 will be completely redesigned. The two exit ramps on Rt9 in each direction will be consolidated into one exit from 128 North and one exit South. The combined exits will be regulated by stop lights at Route 9. There is some concern that this new configuration will divert traffic onto Newton streets or otherwise hamper Newton residents.

The Aldermen's Transportation Committee has scheduled a briefing for all interested people in Room 202 at City Hall at 7:45PM on Wed Feb 8. All are invited to learn the about the project and raise any issues of concern. Two weeks later, Mass. DOT consultants and officials will attend a meeting of the Committee to answer questions from the Aldermen about the impacts of the project and possible changes or mitigation.

The Depot Coffee Shop - The Depot has been closed this past week for remodeling. It's due to re-open sometime this week and to resume dispensing their delicious muffins, pastries, breakfasts and lunches to their Upper Falls customers.

Upper Falls Greenway Meeting on Sunday (2/12) - The Area Council will be holding a public meeting about the proposed Upper Falls Greenway project at 3 PM on Sunday, Feb 12th at the Emerson Community Center on Pettee St. The [Upper Falls Greenway](#), would convert the abandoned railroad tracks behind Needham St into a mile long walking, bicycling, jogging path. The trail will start behind National Lumber and run to the river, with a possible spur over to the railroad bridge on Christina St. Read all about it on the

[Greenway's web site](#) and if it sound's good to you, please sign their [on-line petition](#) in support. If you want the Greenway to be built or if you don't, this meeting is your opportunity to have your voice heard.

26 Miles Is a Long Run - Elliott Kronenfeld, an Upper Falls resident from Thurston St is running this year's Boston Marathon to raise money to fight Leukemia and Lymphoma. Check out [Elliott's training log](#) and consider donating to this great cause.

Learn Your Upper Falls History - Last year the [Friends of Hemlock Gorge](#) published Ken Newcomb's "Maker's of the Mold - a History of Newton Upper Falls" as a fund raiser for the organization. Mr. Newcomb's wonderfully in depth book covers the entire history of our village almost up to the present day and features lots of photos. The print version of the book is available for \$18 at Ye Olde Clip Joint (aka Sol's barbershop) on Chestnut St, NE Mobile Book Fair, and [on-line at the Power of Upper Falls Press](#) or Amazon.com .The entire book is also available for reading [on-line at the Friends of Hemlock Gorge's web site](#).

Upper Falls in Wonderland - Last weekend's Countryside School production of Alice in Wonderland featured a large cast of young Upper Falls actors, singers and dancers in a great production. Particularly noteworthy was Allison Riklin's performance. Alli had been an understudy throughout the rehearsal period. Two weeks before the show she was asked to step in as a replacement for the crucial Queen of Hearts role and did a fabulous job. Every time any of us see Alli now, we'll always remember her bloodthirsty cries of "Off with their heads" and that gleam in her eye.

A Great Neighbor- Local resident Jerry Reilly has been writing occasional blog columns for the Newton Patch called "Dispatch From Upper Falls" Here's a [recent column](#) about his Upper Falls neighbor Bruce Marcy and one of the most interesting houses in the village.

Spread The Word - Our goal is to collect email addresses from every resident of Upper Falls as well as anyone else who's interested in the village. Please help spread the word and urge your friends, family and neighbors to sign up for The Upper Fall News.

Send Us Your News - If you have any upcoming events, activities, news, trivia, stories, anecdotes or jokes related to Upper Falls just send them to info@UpperFallsNews.org and we'll include them in the next newsletter.

Upper Falls Trivia Answer - The site for the building and its design were carefully chosen by historical Upper Falls legend Otis Pettee in 1839. The building has four floors and the ground on the four sides of the building are at different heights. The building was designed so that there is an outside entrance to a different floor from each of the four sides of the building. Go take a walk around the building and see.